

DOCKET NO.: 197759US0CONT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

Akihiro KISHISHITA, et al. :

SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION :

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: NOVEL ASPARTAME DERIVATIVE CRYSTAL AND PROCESS FOR  
PRODUCING THE SAME

#5/1  
4/1  
3/1/01

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, immediately below the Title, insert the following new paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/JP99/02199,  
filed on April 26, 1999 and claims priority to Japanese Patent Application Serial Nos.  
10-125991, filed on May 8, 1998 and 10-207605 filed on July 23, 1998, each of which are  
incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claims 1-3, as follows:

Claim 1, line 1, delete "novel".